Telecom: Does not arise.

(c) *Postal*: Department of Posts is not concerned.

Telecom: Bombay and Delhi Telephone Districts Corporation called into a Telephone Corporation called Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. in 1986. It is too early for any assessment of performance.

(d) *Postal*: Does not relate to Department of Posts.

Telecom: The information is being collected and the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

Sale of Aspirin only on medical prescription

1920. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that free use of Aspirin and its derivatives are liable to cause Reege Syndrom in Children and teen agers;

(b) if so, what are the measures being taken to ban the sale of Aspirin and its derivatives without medical prescription;

(c) what is the quantity of aspirin manufactured in India by multinationals and Government of India or State enterprises, annually during the last 3 years;

(d) whether aspirin and its derivatives are being imported under specific or brand names; and

(e) what is the quantity of aspirin exported out of India annually during the last 3 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reported adverse reaction of Aspirin is confined to the children population and accordingly, the Government has prohibited its use in children below 12 years of age. The manufacturers of Aspirin formulations in the country are required to insert a warning statement indicating the possible adverse reaction to Aspirin in children suffering from viral fever, namely, the Reye's Syndrome. Indian Medical Association has been advised to direct its members not to prescribe Aspirin to children suspected to be suffering from viral fever.

(c) The finished formulation of Aspirin under brand names are not allowed for imports. The bulk Aspirin is a canalised item and is imported through State Trading Corporation.

(d) As per the information received from the Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals, Ministry of Industry Aspirin is being imported as bulk drug. Formulations of Aspirin are not imported.

(e) As per the information received from the Office of Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Ministry of Commerce, there has been no export of Aspirin during 1984-85. The information in respect of 1985-86 and 1986-87 will be collected from the Ministry of Commerce and will be laid on the table of the House.

Indore to Dohad Rail Line

1921. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 218 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Western Railway in their letter dated 10th September, 1985 addressed to the Madhya Pradesh Government had mentioned that the rail link between Indore and Dohad would not be com-